

Duplicate
(No 23)

Whitehall 4th December 1719

Sir

I have received and laid before The King Your Dispatches N^o 44 and 45, one dated from the 28th August to the 9th of Sept^r, and two of the 12th of that Month one of which is marked private.

The repeated and apparently well authenticated Accounts You had received of the Intentions of the Enemy to make an attack upon Jamaica, called for every possible Exertion of Your Strength to put the Island in the best State of Defence, Your Resources would admit of, and fully justifies the Application You made to The Commander in Chief of The Kings Troops and Ships in North America for assistance; and it must give You and the good People of Jamaica the greatest Comfort to find with what chearful Alertness those Officers prepared to succour You, with almost the whole of their Naval Force and all the Troops that could be spared from the defence of the Posts they possessed. Very fortunately indeed the Fleet was prevented from proceeding, after it had sailed out of the Governor Dalling

Harbour

Harbour by Intelligence of the Comte
d'Estaing's Appearance on the Coast of
North America, and that great Armament
preserved from the Dangers and Hazards
of so long a Voyage, in so boisterous a Season
besides being exposed to Capture by the
Enemy.

The progress of the Comte d'Estaing upon
that Coast, or the Events which have hap-
pened to him since his being blown
from his Anchors off Charles Town,
by a Gale of Wind on the 4th of September,
We still are unacquainted with; but there
is good Ground to believe he has been so
much shattered by the Storm as not to
be in a condition to attempt any thing
of importance without refitting. I do
not therefore apprehend Jamaica is in
any immediate Danger of an Attack;
but nevertheless, no remission of the
Measures concerted for its protection,
of which I informed You in my Letter
of the 4th of last Month will take place.
The Spirit and Perseverance shewn
by the Militia of the Island, during
the continuance of the Alarm, is greatly
to

to be commended; and I have the pleasure
to acquaint you, that the Step you took
to give countenance and Encouragement
to the Officers, by allowing them Provincial
Rank, is approved by The King; and, as
a further testimony of His Majesty's
Satisfaction in the behaviour of the
whole Body, I have been commanded
to signify His Royal Pleasure to
The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury
that they should order 5000 pair of
Shoes to be sent out by the first Ships,
as a present from His Majesty to
the private Men.

My Letter of the 8th of October will have
informed you of the fate of your Proposal
of raising a Negroe Corps; but although
the plan has miscarried yet I have no
doubt those you have raised for the
Defence of the Island, upon the late
emergency, will be allowed to receive
their stipulated pay. I took the earliest
Opportunity to submit to Lord Townshend
and Lord Amherst your Recommendation
of the meritorious Officers whose names
are

are contained in the List transmitted
in Your Dispatch of the 18th of August;
and inclosed are Copies of their Lordships
Answers. I also communicated to the
Secretary at War Your Letter of the
12th of September respecting the Esta-
blishment of a General Hospital
at Jamaica; and I send you Copies
of His Answer and the Inspector
Generals Observations, by which You
will see how far You are authorized to
proceed in that business.

I was very happy to find You had
employed so able and experienced an
Officer as Captⁿ Dalrymple to command
any Expedition that might be found
practicable upon the Mosquito Shore,
or Bay of Honduras; and I read Your
Letter of Instructions to the Superintendent
with particular pleasure. The great
Knowledge You have shewn in it, of
the Nature of the Service to be performed
and the Wisdom of the Directions You
have given for carrying it on, give me

the

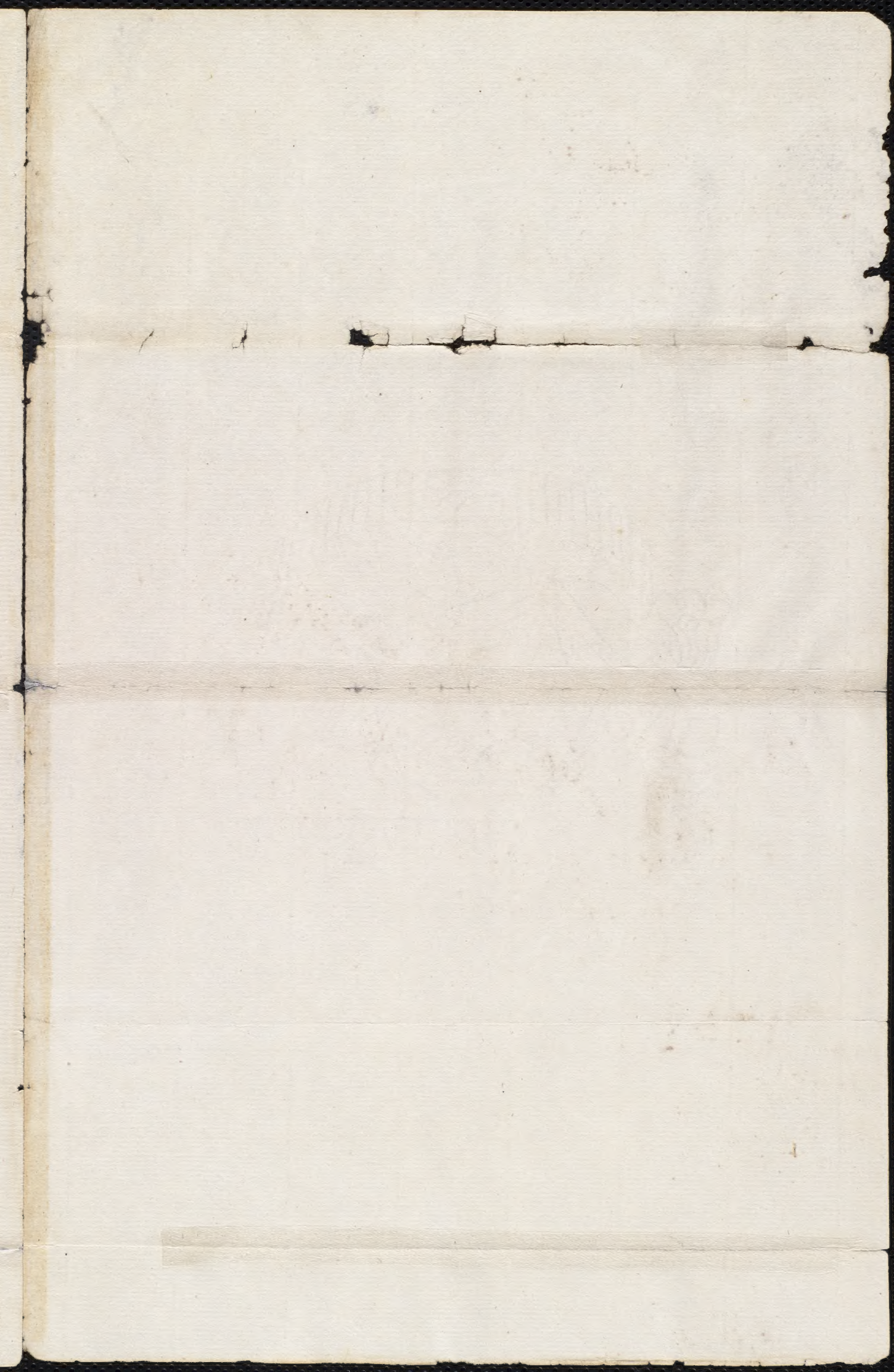
The strongest Expectations of Success
under such able Conduct; and in order to
furnish You with the necessary Supplies
without trusting to the slow progress
of an Ordnance Transport, a large number
of small Arms and some light Ordnance
and a proportion of Ammunition has
been directed to be distributed on board
the Merchant Ships which carry out
the Troops and some Woollens, Arms,
and Ammunition and other Articles
for Presents to the Indians are also
put on board them

I am

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant

Geo: Germain



X

December 4th 1775 -
Lt George - is to keep
from tomorrow. Military
council: Major G. Howard
and for officers, and
repetition to the House.

Ch. F. 8.30